

Jeremiah 51:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is the time of the LORD'S vengeance; he will render unto her a recompence.

Analysis

God commands His people to 'flee out of the midst of Babylon' - both literally (the return from exile) and spiritually (separation from worldly systems). The warning 'be not cut off in her iniquity' emphasizes guilt by association. Babylon's judgment is God's vengeance ('the vengeance of the LORD'); His people must not share her fate. This anticipates Revelation 18:4 - 'Come out of her, my people.'

Historical Context

This command applied to Jews in Babylon when Cyrus conquered it, and spiritually to all God's people called to separate from worldly systems and values.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What 'Babylons' is God calling you to flee from in your life?
2. How do you balance being in the world but not of it (John 17:15-16)?

Interlinear Text

אֶל נֶפֶשׁ וְאֶל יְשָׁמֶן כִּי סְעִיר
Al nephesh v'el yeshamen ki se'ir

Flee out of the midst of Babylon and deliver every man his soul H408

H5127

H8432

H894

בְּכָל מִתְּוֹךְ וּמִלְּטוֹ

and deliver

H4422

אֶל יְשָׁמֶן כִּי סְעִיר

every man

his soul H5315

H408

הִיא נִקְרָם הַתְּקִנָּה מִן
H1931 vengeance

be not cut off in her iniquity H3588 for this is the time H6256

H1826

H5771

H6256

H5360

לִיהְיוֹת הָ

of the LORD'S unto her a recompence H1931 he will render H0

H3068

H1576

H7999

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 50:8 (References Babylon): Remove out of the midst of Babylon, and go forth out of the land of the Chaldeans, and be as the he goats before the flocks.

Jeremiah 50:15 (References Lord): Shout against her round about: she hath given her hand: her foundations are fallen, her walls are thrown down: for it is the vengeance of the LORD: take vengeance upon her; as she hath done, do unto her.

Jeremiah 50:28 (References Lord): The voice of them that flee and escape out of the land of Babylon, to declare in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God, the vengeance of his temple.

Jeremiah 25:14 (Parallel theme): For many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them also: and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands.

Jeremiah 51:45 (References Lord): My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the LORD.

Numbers 16:26 (Sin): And he spake unto the congregation, saying, Depart, I pray you, from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing of their's, lest ye be consumed in all their sins.

Revelation 16:19 (References Babylon): And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

Isaiah 48:20 (Sin): Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye, The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob.

Jeremiah 51:11 (References Lord): Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: the LORD hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes: for his device is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance of his temple.

Jeremiah 50:31 (References Lord): Behold, I am against thee, O thou most proud, saith the Lord GOD of hosts: for thy day is come, the time that I will visit thee.